

October - November 2022

Dear Pastors and Praying Friends,

Autumn has officially arrived here in Japan. The cooler weather is coming in and it is a good change from the summer. It has been wonderful serving the Lord over the past few months. Thank you all for your faithful prayers for our family and ministry here in Japan.

As I mentioned in our last prayer letter, many national pastors and missionaries had come to Kobe to help with the Bible School renovation. We were able to get what needed to be done so that the semester could start. However, there was much that still needed to be done. And so, in September many made a second trip to come and finish up. During that time though, my whole family and I came down with Covid. It started with Rebekah, and it passed to each one of us over the course of two weeks. At that time Japan had each of us quarantine for 10 days, but because we all did not get Covid at the same time, the quarantine lasted a whole month. Despite having Covid, I still wanted to be able to preach for our church. And so, via ZOOM, I was able to preach for our church and teach a few of the small group classes as well.

At the beginning of October, our church had a youth missions trip up to a city called Aomori. Pastor Saeki and the youth held a special activity for them on Saturday and Pastor Saeki preached for them on Sunday. They really enjoyed the time getting to know the church up in snowy Aomori and being able to be a blessing to them. With Pastor Saeki and all of the youth gone, I preached and led the services back in Sannomiya. However, almost immediately after they returned home my family got sick again, however, it was not Covid. Praise the Lord, at the moment of writing this letter, everyone is feeling much better. Thank you so much all of your prayers and support for us. They mean so much to my family and me.

I mentioned in our last letter that a few of the ladies in our church have been bringing their husbands to church. Praise the Lord they have been coming regularly to the services. One of the husbands has been sitting down with Pastor Saeki often to discuss salvation and the God we serve. He is very close to accepting Christ. Please continue to pray for him.

Also, almost everything has been worked out for the new church building project. Everything was approved by the city, which was a huge blessing. The only thing that we are waiting on now is the approval from the bank. Once we officially have that we will be able to purchase the building and start the building process! Praise the Lord! God is doing wonderful things here in Japan, and we are excited to see what He is going to do over this holiday season.

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